

Each year for the past nine years, the Holyoke Mall has helped produce "The Future Begins Here" coalition event that supports children's programs throughout the Pioneer Valley. Some of Holyoke's neediest children benefit from "The Future Begins Here," and the Holyoke Mall should be commended for its strong commitment to the initiative. May 6, 2001 will mark the tenth year of the event, with the Holyoke Mall still on board as a key partner.

I commend the Holyoke Mall at Ingleside's focus on the children of the Pioneer Valley. It will help build a better tomorrow for everyone in western Massachusetts.

RECOGNIZING CLOVIS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Clovis Unified School District for receiving the Meritorious Budget Award. The Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International is given for excellence in the preparation and issuance of a school system annual budget.

ASBO International and school business management professionals designed the Meritorious Budget Awards Program to enable school business administrators to achieve a standard of excellence in budget presentation. This program has helped school systems build a solid foundation in the skills of developing, analyzing, and presenting a budget.

The Meritorious Budget Award is only given to school districts that have met or exceeded the Meritorious Budget Award Program Criteria. This is the only award program that is specifically designed to enhance school budgeting and honor a school system for a job well done.

The Association of School Business Officials International, founded in 1910, is a professional association that provides programs and services to promote the highest standards of school business management practices, professional growth, and the effective use of educational resources.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Clovis Unified School District for receiving the Meritorious Budget Award. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Clovis Unified School District many more years of continued success.

"REMEMBER THE TITANS": EX- TOLLING THE VIRTUES OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Black History Month and to salute the millions of African-Americans who have made enormous contributions to our culture.

We in the Eighth District of Virginia are particularly proud to celebrate Black History Month in 2001, for during the past few months Americans have become familiar with one of the greatest stories of racial reconciliation in our nation's history. I refer to "Remember the Titans," which is the story of the integration of the T.C. Williams High School football team. "Remember the Titans" was released last fall by Disney Pictures and features actors Denzel Washington and Will Patton.

In 1971, the Alexandria City Council voted to integrate T.C. Williams High School, a decision that was criticized by many in the community, as T.C. Williams was one of the first schools to be integrated in the Commonwealth of Virginia. We were still in the midst of the Vietnam War, and on the domestic front, relations between those of different races were strained and unstable.

During the summer of 1971, Coach Herman Boone, an African-American who had been coaching in North Carolina, secured the Head Coach position at T.C. Williams High School, a decision that infuriated the white football players and coaching staff already in place at the school. Many of the football players threatened to leave the team and not play football, rather than play for a black coach. Mr. Bill Yoast had been the Assistant Coach at T.C. Williams High School and was next in line to be named Head Coach when Coach Boone arrived on the scene. Coach Yoast remained the Assistant Coach of the football team, and he too struggled with the decision that had been made, even contemplating retiring from coaching football.

After a rocky beginning, Coach Boone and Coach Yoast focused on the same goal: to have the best football team in Virginia, and the country, a goal which they achieved. The Titans won every game that they played, and ended the season as the second best high school team in the nation.

The 1971 T.C. Williams High School football team embodies the ideals we celebrate during Black History Month. In a sense, the football players along with Coaches Boone and Yoast became a family, one which united not only their divided school, but their community as well. Friendships were formed between black and white students that are sustained to this day. We should recall the lessons of the Titans today: to look beyond the outward appearance, and to look instead, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. taught us, at the content of character.

The integration of T.C. Williams High School in 1971, and the peaceful transition that followed after the community as a whole gathered behind the team, paved the way for other schools in Northern Virginia to integrate. I am extremely proud to represent the City of Alexandria and especially T.C. Williams High School, which today remains one of the most culturally diverse high schools in Virginia, where 40 different languages are spoken daily by students from over sixty countries. The student body at T.C. Williams High School is very reflective of the diversity, and more importantly, of the unity, of our great nation.

I am very proud, Mr. Speaker, that the story of Coach Herman Boone and this remarkable team will forever be a part of Black History Month.

MOVING HUMANITY TOWARD A GREAT FUTURE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I bring to the attention of my colleagues, a thoughtful article by Frank Kelly that appeared in the Santa Barbara News-Press, entitled "Moving Humanity Toward a Great Future" on October 1, 2000.

Mr. Frank K. Kelly has been a journalist, a speechwriter for President Truman, Assistant to the Senate Majority Leader, Vice President of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, and Vice President of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the following article:

The sight of 152 national leaders streaming into the United Nations headquarters for a Millennium Summit meeting filled me with rejoicing. The leaders were called together by the Secretary General to develop plans for action to move toward lasting peace and a sustainable future for every one on Earth. They endorsed an eight-page plan to deal with the world community's hardest problems—and the U.N. staff has responded to the Summit mandate.

That gathering was particularly encouraging for me because it came close to being what I had envisioned 33 years ago in articles for the Center Magazine and the Saturday Review. Those articles focused on the signs I saw then of the coming transformation of humanity—when people everywhere would act to meet the needs of every member of the human family. I saw the creative power of human beings being released in a glorious surge of new achievements.

In the Center Magazine articles, I proposed that the Secretary General should be authorized by the U.N. to present annual reports on the state of humanity—reports based on information drawn from all the nations and broadcast around the world each year. I contended that the reports should emphasize the noblest deeds and wisest statements of human beings in every field. It should salute Heroes of Humanity—men and women who were highly creative and compassionate, who served one another and helped one another, who broke the bonds which kept others from developing their abilities, who displayed the deepest respect for the inherent dignity of each human person.

The Millennium Summit was certainly based on the transforming principles that I expected to see. Secretary General Kofi Annan asked leaders there to take every possible step to enable the people of every country to move upward in health and prosperity, and to make a strong effort to reduce the number of people living in dire poverty by 50 percent by the year 2015. His goals were clearly similar to those of an American president—Harry Truman—who declared in an inaugural address in 1949: "Only by helping the least fortunate of its members to help themselves can the human family achieve the decent, satisfying life that is the right of all people."

The gathering of the world's political leaders at the U.N. this year must be followed year by year by reports to humanity from the Secretary General. Year after year, the people of this planet must be reminded of what wonderful, mysterious, amazing beings

they actually are. There must be continuing celebrations of human greatness.

I do not believe that political leaders—even the best ones among them—can adequately represent the brilliance, the beauty, the enormous diversities of human beings. Future Summit meetings and future reports must involve singers and dancers, choirs of voices, painters and sculptors, novelists and historians and poets, musicians and composers, mystics and spiritual servants, mediators, theologians, retreat masters, and scientists, homebuilders and architects, craftsmen and teachers, administrators and fire wheelers—people from every field. And every celebration should proclaim and reflect the inexhaustible energies of love.

The Millennium Summit revived for many the people the torrent of hope with which we began the New Year. One the first day of the year 2000 there were television broadcasts from places we had never seen before—showing people welcoming the new era with songs and dances, with outburst of exuberant joy. We felt the kinship of belonging to one human family—but that wave of linkage subsided as the patterns of previous centuries took over again. The new perspectives which we had glimpsed through global communications were not absorbed into our thinking and acting.

But the gathering of leaders at the U.N. brought back our awareness of the fact that we do live in a time of transformation. With all their capacities and their limitations, the leaders made informal contacts with one another than they had never experienced before. When Fidel Castro came close to Bill Clinton and shook Clinton's hand before anyone could stop him, there was a moment of change that would not be forgotten. And the President heard comments from other leaders who milled around him and approached him as person, he responded to them and he had a personal impact on each one of them.

The effects of the Millennium Summit will be felt in countless ways. The U.N. has already gained new vitality from it—new attention from the media, new understanding from people who had largely ignored it. The leaders who mingled there, who talked in the halls and encountered one another unexpectedly, will feel wider responsibilities to the world community as well as to their own nations.

Yet this time of transformation goes far beyond the repercussions from a conference of presidents and prime ministers. It has started dialogues in the homes of people everywhere—and around the Earth through the Internet. It calls for a continuous recognition of the creative events occurring in all countries. It demands a wider awareness of the fast currents of change that are carrying us into new circles of conflict and compassion, new embraces new surges of evolution, tall feelings of hope that great things are coming.

In July, 50 passionate advocates of long-range thinking and constructive action took part in a three-day meeting at La Casa de Maria, a conference and retreat center in Santa Barbara, with the purposes of connecting their lives to one another and becoming more effective in benefiting humanity and a threatened world. Much attention was given to the ideas of Joanna Macy, a Buddhist philosopher and activist, who believes that many signs indicate a great turning in human attitudes. She asserts that many people are turning away from destructive habits of an

The men and women in the sessions at La Casa cited these goals: "To provide people

the opportunity to experience and share with others the innermost responses to the present condition of our world: to reframe their pain for the world as evidence of their interconnectedness in the web of life and hence their power to take part in its healing; to provide people with concepts—from system science, deep ecology, or spiritual traditions—which illumine this power along with exercises which reveal its play in their own lives . . . to enable people to embrace the great turning as a challenge which they are fully capable of meeting in a variety of ways, and as a privilege in which they can take joy . . ."

The soaring presence of joy permeated the gathering in Santa Barbara. We danced and we sang, we looked at one another face to face, finding deep realities in each other's eyes; we imagined what the people of the next century might ask us if we were confronted by representatives of future generations. We went far forward in time and in our sharing of our thoughts and emotions. We laughed together and some of us came close to tears. We felt the potential greatness of the human species.

That experience in the beautiful surroundings of La Casa de Maria on El Bosque road reinforced my conviction that Summit Meetings for Humanity should be held annually or possibly more often. It made me determined again to uphold a right of celebration as a human right essential for a full understanding of the immortal power in the depths of human beings.

Walter Wriston, author of "The Twilight of Sovereignty," has given us a vivid description of the increasing impact of the global communications system which now provides unlimited channels for education and illumination: "Instead of merely invalidating George Orwell's vision of Big Brother watching the citizen, information technology has allowed the reverse to happen. The average citizen is able to watch Big Brother. Individuals anywhere in the world with a computer and modem can access thousands of databases internationally. And these individuals, who communicate with each other electronically regardless of race, gender, or color, are spreading the spirit of personal expression—of freedom—to the four corners of the Earth."

Noting that we are now living in what can be called a global village, Wriston observed: "In a global village, denying people human rights or democratic freedoms no longer means denying them an abstraction they have never experienced, but rather it means denying them the established customs of the village. Once people are convinced that these things are possible in the village, an enormous burden falls upon those who would withhold them."

This is the Age of Open Doors—and the doors cannot be closed against anyone. More than 50 years ago, the U.N. General Assembly endorsed a revolutionary statement drafted by committee headed by an American woman, Eleanor Roosevelt—the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Assembly called upon all member countries and people everywhere "to cause it to be disseminated, displayed, read and expounded principally in schools and other educational institutions, without distinction based on the political status of countries or territories." The Declaration is now part of the human heritage—an essential element in the aspirations of people all over the planet.

The Declaration proclaims a bedrock fact: "Recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all mem-

bers of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world." Every Summit Meeting for Humanity in all the years to come should begin with a reading of the 30 specific articles of the Declaration. It encourages us to become intensely aware of our own marvelous gifts—the package that came to us in the process of becoming human. It sanctions the pleasure of trying new thoughts, of taking new steps on new paths, and tossing our fears behind us. In the light of it, we welcome the hunger to know and to grow that we see in all the glorious beings around us.

Many scientists now acknowledge that human beings embody the creative power of the universe in a special way. We are connected with the divine power that shaped the stars and brought all things into existence. We are limited only by the range of our imaginations—our visions of what can be done.

Herman Hesse, a great novelist, described our situation most beautifully. In one of his books, he wrote: "What then can give rise to a true spirit of peace on Earth? Not commandments and not practical experience. Like all human progress, the love of peace must come from knowledge."

It is the knowledge of the living substance in us, in each of us, in you and me . . . the secret godliness that each of us bears within us. It is the knowledge that, starting from this innermost point, we can at all times transcend all pairs of opposites, transforming white into black, evil into good, night into day.

The Indians call it Atman; the Chinese; Tao; the Christians call it grace. When the supreme knowledge is present (as in Jesus, Buddha, Plato, or Lao-Tzu) a threshold is crossed, beyond which miracles begin. The war and enmity cease. We can read of it in the New Testament and the discourses of Gautama. Anyone who is so inclined can laugh at it and call it "introverted rubbish," but to one who has experienced it his enemy becomes his brother, death becomes birth, disgrace honor, calamity good fortune. . .

"Each thing on Earth discloses itself twofold, as 'of this world' and not of this world. But 'this world' means what is outside us. Everything that is outside us can become enemy, danger, fear and death. The light dawns with the experience that this entire 'outworld world' is not only an object of our perception but at the same time the creation of our soul, with the transformation of all outward into inward things, of the world into the self."

As humanity moves from one summit to another, as the deep connections of the human family shift from the outward world to the world within us, as we know one another fully at last, the inner knowledge enfolds all of us. A glorious age is around us, and in us, and we will take it all into ourselves.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 27, 2001

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent for all legislative business during the week of February 12, 2001 through February 16, 2001, due to a medical condition. As a result, I missed the following votes: On Tuesday,